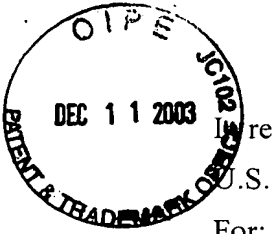


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Application of: Tsutomu YAMAZAKI
For: APPARATUS, METHOD, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM
PRODUCT FOR IMAGE PROCESSING

Confirmation No.: 9300
U.S. Serial No.: 09/557,151
Filed: April 25, 2000
Group Art Unit: 2624
Examiner: Anh Hong Do

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EV 411784720 US
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DECEMBER 11, 2003
Date of Signature

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

**NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES (37 C.F.R. § 1.191)**

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Appeals and Inteferences from the decision of the Primary Examiner, mailed July 14, 2003 and the Advisory Action, mailed November 5, 2003, finally rejecting Claims 1-15.

A Petition for Two-Month Extension of Time is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please charge \$330.00 for the filing of the Notice of Appeal pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(b) to SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please charge any additional fees (other than the issue fee) required during

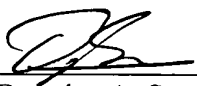
Serial No. 09/557,151

the pendency of this application to Deposit Account #18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account #18-1260.

A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


Douglas A. Sorensen
Reg. No. 31,570
Attorney for Applicant

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December 11, 2003